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CENTENNIAL TOURNAMENTS CONTINUED Participants and Duties Announced

It was announced yesterday at a noon press conference that Loyola College would again be hosting Canada's top invitational hockey tournament on January 2, 3 and 4th and as a preliminary event to it, would be continuing with their annual basketball tournament.

Heading the list of hockey entries will be the defending national and tournament champs The University of Toronto and an impressive Harvard University team representing U.S. College hockey interests. The Americans have thirteen lettermen returning from a team that finished a strong fourth in the N.C.A.A. last year. McGill, Sir George and host Loyola complete the slate of competitors.

Université de Montreal was unable to accept an invitation because of a prior scheduling commitment. Two of the other "big fish" that got away included Sportovaz University in Czechoslovakia. The Czechs indicated they were coming until a travel embargo in August curtailed all foreign student travel. A second European possibility, the Finnish Student Olympic team didn't decide they wanted to come until just two weeks ago which was too short notice to arrange travel, accommodations and post tournament games to help finance their trans-Atlantic trip.

Even without the European's the tournament shapes up as possibly the best yet. The teams are evenly matched and any four of the five teams, Toronto, Harvard, Sir George or Loyola could easily emerge as champions. The three time winner the Toronto Blues are proving they are not invincible anymore having lost two league games already this year; while Harvard, Sir George and Loyola all look stronger.

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The setting for the quarter and semi finals this year has been termed ideally suited for college hockey. The organizers have reserved the Pointe Claire Arena for the nights of January 2 and 3 with two games scheduled each evening commencing at 6:30 p.m. The big championship game will be played as usual at the Montreal Forum on Sunday January 4th at 2:00 p.m.

To the winning team will go the beautiful Centennial Cup donated by J. David Molson, of Canadian Arena Company.

The Centennial Basketball Tournament played prior to the hockey tourney has also grown in prestige over the last three years to a point where it rates as one of Canada's top basketball attractions.

Brandeis University of Waltham, Mass., Norwich University of Northfield, Vermont, McGill and host Loyola will be the four participants. Brandeis is defending tournament champion. At the Loyola Sports Complex the opening games are at 6:30 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. on Monday, December 22 followed by the consolation and championship game, on Tuesday, December 23 at the same times.

The pairings for both tournaments will be announced at a later date.

Presiding at yesterday's press conference were The Very Reverend Patrick G. Malone, S.J., President of Loyola of Montreal, his athletic director Ed Ehos who conceived the idea for these events in 1967 as part of Canada's 100th birthday celebration and Floyd Curry representing J. David Molson of the Canadian Arena Company who has been the driving force behind the Centennial Hockey Tournament.